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# THE WONDERFUL STORY OF A REMARKABLE

apple—Stark Delicious—is told in this circular. This is the apple that has upset old orchard standards in all parts of the country—it is *the* apple you should plant largely of *this Spring*.

These eight pages are from the Stark Year Book for 1911, but are printed on this exceedingly light-weight paper so that we could send you this interesting matter now. The Stark Year Book itself is printed on heavy enameled paper of the highest quality and of course the type matter and the pictures show up ever so much better. But the story is all here, and that's what you want.

## Stark Delicious\*

(Trade-Mark)

Distinctive in shape, beautiful in color, remarkable in quality and perfect in tree and blossom, Stark Delicious stands so apart from all other apples as to make the writing of a description, doing it full justice, an almost impossible task. The Hon. Luther Burbank, known to all for his pomological genius, describes it simply—"It is a gem—the finest apple in all the world."

Stark Delicious is large, with the surface almost covered with a most beautiful, brilliant dark red, blending to a golden yellow at the blossom end. The calyx, or blossom end of Delicious, is one of its ever-characteristic features—having five protuberances more or less pointed or flat-rounded, depending on the section where grown.

In quality it is unsurpassed, incomparable—words cannot describe it. In flavor it is sweet, slightly touched with acid but only enough so to make it all the more pleasing, with an aroma delightfully fragrant. The flesh is fine grained, very crisp, exceedingly juicy and melting, and withal, delicious.

People with delicate stomachs, to whom an acid apple is wholly indigestible, find Delicious the one apple they can enjoy without disagreeable after-results. Physicians of note have prescribed it for cases of this character.

In keeping qualities it ranks with the best, coming out of storage in March and April in perfect condition.

In tree Delicious is tree-perfection and one of the strongest, hardest, and most vigorous growers among apples; aphid-resistant, and a late bloomer; blossoms strongly frost-resistant—a most important and valuable feature.

Delicious was originated at Peru, Madison County, Iowa (near Des Moines), by the late Mr. Jesse Hiatt, and on his farm the original tree still flourishes, bearing annual crops of as beautiful fruit of this variety as we have ever seen.

In 1895 we undertook the propagation and introduction of Delicious, purchasing outright from Mr. Hiatt the sole right to it. In writing us at that time, the originator included in his letter a description and history of the original tree, which we reprint, since it is representative of the tree as it is grown in all parts of the country:

"The original tree of Delicious is now about fifteen years old and is 18 inches in diameter at ground. Makes strong,

1911



The Simmons' orchard of Stark Delicious at Howard Lake, Minnesota

Don't fail to send for The Stark Year Book for 1911. Postage 10 cents

vigorous grower, similar to Winesap, except branches are stronger and need little or no pruning. Both tree and fruit are perfect models. The tree is strong, has finely molded limbs which are adapted to bearing great weights of fruit. Does not sprout or sucker—does not succumb to blight, and has never shown signs of tenderness. During the last eight years drought and cold have killed three-fifths of my orchard, but Delicious withstood it. Bears annually, yielding large quantities of luscious fruit, both beautiful and delicious. Praised by all who have tasted it. Has a peculiar quality that cannot be surpassed nor described and a delicious fragrance. Brilliant dark red, often mingled with gold near blossom end. Splendid winter keeper, equal to Ben Davis. All declare it to be the best apple in the world."

In the same letter Mr. Hiatt describes the fruit, saying: "I am nearly seventy years old, and have raised apples all my life, and would not willingly overestimate Delicious for forty such varieties, but if it is not a better apple than any of your large list, it will cost you nothing. I have never seen a man taste it but who says it is the best apple he ever sampled. It hangs on the tree as well as Ben Davis, keeps as well, is a good shipper (bruises, instead of decaying, dry up, like Ben Davis), is as large, of finer color, as strong a grower, harder, bears as young and every year. Once introduced, there will be but little call for Jonathan."

It goes without saying that before undertaking the propagation of this variety we carefully investigated its merits. That we are pushing and urging its planting as ardently and as persistently as we are doing, is proof that the results of our investigations were wholly satisfactory. We unhesitatingly recommend Delicious for any purpose and for any locality where an apple tree will grow.

No other apple has ever commanded or deserved a one-hundredth part of the enthusiasm, attention, and praise that has been showered on Delicious by everyone who has seen or tasted it—orchardists, horticulturists, commission men, and the great apple-consuming public, have, one and all, lauded it to the echo.

On the markets—"the court of last resort"—Delicious has, season after season, recorded triumphs never before equaled in the history of fruit selling. Prices undreamed of it commands, with the demand always far ahead of the supply, while old favorites believed to be firmly seated on the top step of popularity, have fallen into a second place.

Perhaps no other variety ever won esteem and popularity among commercial orchardists as quickly as did Delicious—attributable to the exceptional qualities of the tree and the unusually large profits the fruit earns. Especially is this true in those wonderful orchard regions lying west of the Colorado Rockies and extending to the Pacific Coast. In those regions Delicious has earned almost unbelievably large profits—which if printed into book form would be well named—"Delicious, the Modern Aladdin's Lamp." Many records of what

Delicious has done and is doing in a profit-earning way are related in the letters from orchardists which we are reproducing.

No apple in propagation shows such wonderful adaptability; from all regions comes the same story. On the cold, bleak prairies of Iowa where it originated it is at its best; in Michigan it is pronounced perfection, crowding out Spy and Baldwin; in Nebraska and South Dakota, in the far west—Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado—it stands at the very top of the list, and even in the Bellflower country of California it has made good; in New Mexico its wondrous beauty is a revelation. In Montana it is outstripping McIntosh and bringing double the price. In the fruit belts of Missouri, Arkansas, Pennsylvania, New York, and all New England, it is fruiting to perfection; in Virginia and West Virginia, where orchardists are just beginning to awaken to their country's wonderful possibilities, and in Tennessee, Delicious is repeating its unfailing fruiting record. Even far south, where so many varieties are failures, it thrives. In Australia and New Zealand it is one of the few varieties that can be grown without double-working, because of its aphid-resistant qualities. You will search all pomological history in vain for an apple anywhere nearly approaching the record of the great Stark Delicious—and the half has not been told.

We have handled thousands of boxes of Delicious since its introduction; we have handled at the same time many other varieties—the best keepers and the best sellers of the older sorts, but Delicious is by far the most satisfactory. During the last few years we have shipped them to every corner of the United States, and to many foreign countries, and we firmly believe its splendid keeping and shipping qualities, together with its wondrous beauty and its incomparable quality, will make it the export apple of the future. As a shipper it is perfection. We offer other good varieties—apples of splendid quality, good keepers, good shippers, sorts that are popular; but when a planter asks for the best we name Delicious—then more Delicious.

Plant Delicious largely, make it the largest block in your orchard, and you will never regret it. NNCS Illustrated in natural color, as grown in various States, on pages 2, 21, 22, 28, and 38. Also illustrated in black on pages 8 and 40.

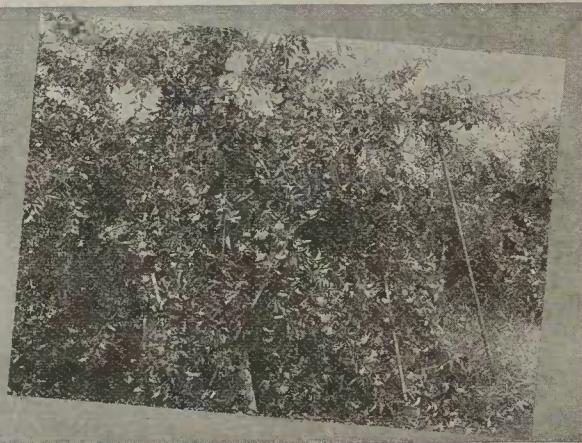
ARKANSAS. I have one hundred bearing trees of Delicious. I consider it the finest quality apple grown, followed closely by Stayman in its season. It is a heavy and regular bearer. My trees are nine years old and have borne four crops. Have plenty of Delicious weighing 12 ounces, some 14 and 16. I consider it the best money-maker and Stayman next. I get \$2.50 for Delicious from the trees. Nothing stood last year's drought better than Delicious. Ingram and Champion have been good also.—H. D. MORTON, Pope County.

ARKANSAS. C. V. Morton, of Pottsville, Ark., exhibited the finest specimens of Delicious I have ever seen from any section. After the exhibition he had no trouble selling plates of five apples at \$1.00 each, at the State Fair in Hot Springs. The advertising he got at the Fair resulted in his getting orders for all the Delicious he had at \$5.00 per box. I understood him to say that his six-year trees averaged a bushel to the tree.—ERNEST WALKER, Washington County.

ARKANSAS. I consider the Delicious the finest apple in the world. I have raised them that beat your pictures of them.—J. R. GRAY, Yell County.



The originator and original tree of Stark Delicious



One of 100 Stark Delicious trees in the Bailey orchard, Chelan County, Washington, that in 1908 earned \$2,000

ARIZONA. I have one Delicious tree in bearing. Was top grafted four years ago and has borne two crops of very fine apples.—W. A. JORDAN, Yavapai County.

CALIFORNIA. The Delicious is the best apple I ever ate. The tree is a strong, vigorous grower; ten third-size one-year trees that I planted in spring 1906 now (1910) stand 15 or more feet high, and are 5 and 6 inches in diameter at collar. Had about a box and a half of apples on last fall.—ROBERT CLIFFORD, San Diego County.

CALIFORNIA. The Delicious keeps about as long as any we have and longer than any other good apple.—LUTHER BURBANK, Sonoma County.

CALIFORNIA. Delicious, King David, Paragon and Stayman Winesap, have a fine, vigorous, frost-resisting bloom. They have escaped when many others were entirely killed. Have thought them about equally hardy, but this year, one of the severest I have ever known, Delicious proved its superiority; a fair crop on all trees with temperature at 26 degrees at blooming time. King David and Stayman Winesap also have a fair crop but not so good as Delicious. The fact that an apple has hardiness of bloom to resist 3 to 6 degrees more of frost is of far greater importance than the time of blooming.—FRANK FEMMONS, Madera County.

CALIFORNIA. I mailed you to-day a sample of the Delicious apple grown on your yearling trees two years from planting. I had two on one little tree. How does it compare with samples from other states? I had no doubt but what those highly colored plates in the Year Book exaggerated the apple, but all doubt is now removed. I don't think the plates nor the premium picture does this one justice. I had them on exhibition at the store and they were the admiration of everybody. Their rich color and beauty attracts the attention of everyone.—J. B. CURTIS, Monterey County.

CALIFORNIA. From my two years of experience with Delicious, I find them superior to anything I have so far planted. They seem to be almost wholly resistant to powdery mildew, which has been more or less of a menace or absolute injury to many other varieties of my growing stock. They are fairly drought resistant, thriving where some of the other stock will take on the appearance of a decided set-back. For general all-round thrif and rapid growth, I do not find that they have an equal among the different varieties I have so far tested on my place, which is, as far as I know, the most elevated region where apples are grown in the United States, it having an altitude of more than 6,250 feet.—S. B. WRIGHT, San Bernardino County.

COLORADO. I cannot say enough in favor of Delicious. It is an apple of exceedingly fine flavor, handsome appearance, and I know from experience that its keeping qualities are good.—M. A. SHUTE, Secretary Colorado Horticultural Society.

COLORADO. It was four years ago that I first saw the Stark Delicious apple. I considered it the finest apple I ever saw and still hold that opinion of it.—JUDGE W. B. FELTON, Fremont County.

COLORADO. My Delicious trees are eleven years old from setting. I find that the tree is a strong, upright grower, very clean and healthy. They are easily the leader of all known apples, and to my notion attain their greatest perfection in this mountain region. I arrived at this conclusion on comparing them with Delicious of other states as shown at the Denver National Apple Show. Their keeping qualities are as good as the best when kept in a common cellar not too cold—36 degrees is about right.—C. H. COE, Garfield County.

COLORADO. I have twenty-five Delicious apple trees in bearing, have borne every season for five years. Have sold all I had at \$3.00 per box when Jonathan were selling at \$1.50. No apple in existence equals it in quality.—GUS WETZEL, Garfield County.

COLORADO. Our experience with the Stark Delicious has been that it is a very desirable apple for its season. I consider it one of the best flavored and highest quality apples we have in Colorado.—E. R. BENNETT, Larimer County.

COLORADO. Have found a tree here bearing on top grafts put in 6 or 7 years ago, from which the owner, Mr. C. G. Smith, picked fourteen boxes this year. They are far superior to the samples you sent me, solid red with very pronounced yellow dots, with the five little protuberances at the calyx end which I believe is characteristic of the variety. The quality is all you claim for it.—GEORGE LA GRANGE, Mesa County.

COLORADO. I bought a three-year-old Gano apple orchard, and shall top work every tree to your best apple on earth—Delicious—name the orchard “Delicious Orchard.” My neighbor has 800 Delicious trees, two years set, and I think they are the finest block in Mesa County.—J. H. SAYLES, Mesa County.

COLORADO. No man can make a mistake in planting Delicious, it is far superior to any apple I have ever tested, is hardy and a good keeper. A man with a Delicious orchard can control his own price. A bearing orchard of Delicious would not be for sale at any price.—HON. WM. CUTTER, Mesa County.

COLORADO. I have about one hundred boxes of Delicious. Took the prize at the State Fair at Pueblo also at Cortez—very fine and good.—WM. C. MILLER, Montezuma County.

COLORADO. The Delicious trees in Mr. B. F. Bowers' orchard have made a fine growth and were loaded with apples of the finest quality. Mr. Stoward, President of the Nurserymen's Association, says their color is finer here than he has ever seen elsewhere and the size and flavor compares with the best. The trees, although but seven years old, were a picture this year, loaded to the ground with the choicest fruit.—JOHN HARBERT, Otero County (Arkansas Valley).

CONNECTICUT. While I appreciate your kindness in sending me a box of Delicious apples, I did not need them to convince me of its good qualities as I have seen it in the West and here in the East. The samples I have heretofore seen in the East were not of very good size, but specimens in our own orchard at Seymour this year came up smiling in good shape. Come right down to daily feed, I find the Delicious fills the bill better than King David.—J. H. HALE, the Peach King.

CONNECTICUT. We exhibited Delicious at our recent fruit show of the State Society. With us the variety is very promising both in growth and crop. They also kept fine last year.—A. G. GULLEY, Tolland County.

IDAHO. I had charge of the Iowa Fruit Exhibit at the St. Louis Worlds Fair, and Delicious apples, grown by that veteran fruit-grower, Mr. Harrington, of Iowa, took first prize for quality over all competitors. In Iowa it is easily king of all apples in quality, grows well, bears well, and excites more admiration than any apple ever produced. Delicious has come to stay.

Have seen the variety in many states and know it as a strong grower, very productive, a good keeper, and sells higher on the market than any variety yet known. I have engaged all the apples on two trees here for next fall at \$3.00 per box, when other good varieties could be bought for \$1.25.—HON. SILAS WILSON, Canyon County.

IDAHO. We are usually very ready to “kick” if the trees, etc., don't grow, so it is only fair to tell the other side when they do grow. Out of three hundred Delicious apple trees I bought of you last winter and planted about May 1st, near Jerome, Idaho, we have lost only one tree, the balance will average 24-inch growth in ninety days—strong and vigorous. We consider the result great for green hands right out of Chicago, who never grew a tree before. Speaks well for the trees.—DR. R. C. NEWELL, Chicago, Ill.

IDAHO. The Delicious has been grown as an experiment on this tract and its value for this part of the Snake River Valley seems to have been fully demonstrated. The specimen I received, grown 25 miles north of us was perfect. There is a great deal of interest about this variety and a good many new orchards will be planted to Delicious in the next few years.—PAUL ELLIS, Bingham County.

ILLINOIS. The only mistake I made in planting your good Delicious apple was in not planting at least one thousand trees; they are better than you ever claimed them to be—the finest eating apple man or woman ever tasted. Could have sold one thousand boxes of them this year at or above fancy prices. I do not believe the market will ever be overstocked with your leader of the world—Delicious. There is none better, simply perfect—you have found it. Tree a splendid grower, very fine wood and shapely head—and at this time, December 10, has most of its foliage still hanging, while all others are defoliated entirely.—HENRY C. CURP, Adams County.

ILLINOIS. Stark Delicious has attracted more attention from fruit critics than any other in the past three years. It has without doubt sold at an average price higher than any other apple grown. Often compared with Spitzenburg, Jonathan, and Grimes Golden, but it is hard to compare Stark Delicious with any apple. True, tastes change; so who shall decide unless it be the people who pay for them. But Stark Delicious has been before the public long enough to have its weak points found before this—if it has any. One thing seems certain, the taste for sweet and semi-sweet apples is growing, and Stark Delicious seems to combine the sub-acid quality with richness of flavor in the highest degree. Some find fault with its ribbed nature at the blossom-end; I consider this an advantage—it adds distinction to the apple.—BEN NEWHALL, Chicago.

ILLINOIS. Last evening the finest box of apples I ever saw arrived at our house. I have seen some pretty fine Delicious in the last two years, but for style and color and perfection of shape, I believe this box is unmatched. You are spoiling us for any other apples—getting so we cannot eat an ordinary fancy Spitz, or Grimes, or Jonathan or Wealthy. The friends that come to our house fairly stare at them. They cannot understand such quality. Delicious is worth all the time and thought and work you have put on it—yes more.—BEN NEWHALL, Chicago.

ILLINOIS. We had good luck with Delicious last year and believe it will prove more of a winner than ever.—L. G. KUNZE, Fancy Fruit-Dealer, Chicago.

ILLINOIS. I happened to be in the store of Stanton & Co. here, who make a specialty of supplying the highest-grade fruits, and I asked them if they handled Delicious. They said they did and that they paid \$0.06 per box for them, and would be glad to pay \$12.00 if they could get them now. They said Delicious is the finest apple grown and that they could sell a great many more of them if they had them. Of course, that kind of talk pleased me very much, coming from such a source—no one stands higher in Chicago on high-class eatables.—J. S. HUEY, Chicago.

ILLINOIS. Our Delicious have just commenced bearing; the finest apples we ever ate and everyone else says the same. Keeps well, no failure in tree or fruit, so far as we know.—EASTMAN & Co., Jersey County.

ILLINOIS. Delicious and King David were fine and seemed to come up to all you have said. King David is fine cooker, and one among the best flavored dessert apples I have ever seen; has that agreeable acid flavor that is in the old Winesap when at its best, and the texture of the flesh is all anyone could ask. Delicious, as a dessert apple alone, is in a class by itself; nothing equals it in my opinion. King David, on my young trees have never had a chance, and, by the way, the Delicious I grow don't have those five prominent protuberances, but you can't beat me for quality. I am more than pleased with both varieties.—G. W. ENDICOTT, Pulaski County.

ILLINOIS. Benj. Buckman, the world-famous experimenter and authority on apple, who has more than one thousand varieties in orchard, writes: “Delicious is as good as any apple or other fruit that I ever ate and must grade as one of the very best.”

IOWA. I had charge of the Iowa Fruit Exhibit at the St. Louis Worlds Fair, and Delicious apples grown by that veteran fruit-grower, Mr. Harrington, of Iowa, took first prize for quality over all competitors. In Iowa, it is easily king of all apples in quality, grows well, bears well, and excites more admiration than any apple ever produced. Delicious has come to stay. Have seen the variety in many states and know it as a strong grower, very productive, a good keeper, and sells higher on the market than any variety yet known. I have engaged all the apples on two trees here for next fall at \$3.00 per box, when other good varieties could be bought for \$1.25.—HON. SILAS WILSON, Canyon County.

IOWA. Delicious came through the awful freeze and storm of April 22 and 23, 1910, with scarcely any injury while all other apple trees, twenty-eight varieties, were badly damaged in leaf and buds all destroyed. I tell you the Delicious trees look grand in their uninjured foliage while the others are brown as straw.—THOS. F. RIGG, Horticultural Experimental Grounds, Iowa Falls, Iowa.

IOWA. I think very highly of Delicious; the trees are entirely hardy here, very tough in wood and do not break or split in the forks—a very essential thing in any tree.—A. S. BEARY, Hardin County.

IOWA. I have ten Delicious trees fruiting in my orchard. When these were planted, I put out thirty-five trees of other varieties; these ten Delicious trees have borne more than all the other thirty-five.—GEORGE HOCKETT, Ringgold County.

KANSAS. The aroma of the Delicious apple is as delightful as the taste and fills the house with its perfume as does no other apple.—(MRS.) SARAH P. BOZEMAN, Allen County.

KANSAS. I am sending you a specimen apple and would like to know what variety it is. Have only one tree, bought from you nine years ago;



A 3-year-old Stark Delicious tree on the S. F. Burgess ranch, Toppenish, Washington. The photograph tells the story of young and heavy bearing

**This is page 8 from The Stark Year Book for 1911**

it is hardy and a thrifty grower. This is the third year it has borne, and everyone who sees the apple is very much taken with it. The specimen is about average size, although some of the apples are much larger.—A. B. EASTERDAY, Atchison County.

(Note.—The specimen sent by Mr. Easterday was Delicious; a very firm, dark, rich, gloriously colored Delicious, of just the right size and as fine as any we have ever seen.—STARK BRO'S.)

KENTUCKY. I have some fine apples of your new fruits, such as Delicious, Champion, Apple of Commerce. Delicious is very large, have just weighed one that weighed 13 ounces.—W. H. PIERCE, Ohio County.

MAINE. Delicious is hardy here.—CHARLES G. ATKINS, Hancock County.

MAINE. Delicious trees are thrifty, have stood the cold winters well, and are hardy here.—C. IVORY MONSE, Cumberland County.

MARYLAND. Delicious is fine—I can't say enough for it.—ALFRED WILLISON, Allegany County.

MASSACHUSETTS. Delicious are bringing 15 cents each in Fall River.—REV. J. WILLIAMS, Bristol County.

MASSACHUSETTS. I hasten to thank you for samples of the King David apple which arrived in A-1 condition. It is certainly a fine apple, but Delicious suits me better. The Ginter Co. of Boston have Delicious apples in their window about the size of a small pumpkin and they are all apple to the core. They ask 20 cents apiece for them. I am glad I took your advice and planted my orchard mostly to Delicious.—A. D. BIRCHARD, Suffolk County.

MASSACHUSETTS. I sent by mail a Senator and a Delicious apple. The summer was very dry and the trees heavily loaded, so they were not extra large.—WM. F. THAYER, Hampden County. (The Delicious was a perfect specimen and more highly colored than the Western grown. When Massachusetts growers learn the value of Delicious, they will drive Baldwin, etc., from the Boston market.—STARK BRO'S.)

MICHIGAN. Looking over our best varieties planted on North Manitou Island, we find the twelve Delicious you sent us excelling them all. The apple has good size, rich color, and remarkable flavor. They ran about four tier in size. On July 15th of this year, we still had in our common cellar, a few apples and the quality and flavor was still there. You need not hesitate to recommend Delicious for northern Michigan.—BEN NEW-HALL & SON, Chicago.

MICHIGAN. I have a small orchard of Delicious which has borne three crops. Trees are now eight years old, they fruited the fifth year and they grow to perfection here. I consider them the finest apple ever grown in this country; trees are healthy and hardy. Northern Spy planted by the side of Delicious froze, but Delicious gave a good crop.—JOHN VERSNYDER, Leelanau County.

MICHIGAN. Have Delicious trees in bearing—quality of the fruit cannot be excelled.—JOSEPH A. BUTLER, Emmett County.

MICHIGAN. I was in Chicago several days last week and visited some of the high-class fruit stores where I found the Delicious in great abundance. Kunze on Randolph Street had their window full of Delicious, King David, and several other varieties. Delicious apples were selling at 20 cents per apple. I think they were the largest and most beautiful apples I have ever seen. The fruit stands out on the street were selling Delicious of a smaller size at 10 and 15 cents each. From what I saw there I was convinced that the apple business is better than growing oranges.—F. E. BEATTY, Pres. R. M. Kellogg Co. (Strawberry Plant Specialists), Three Rivers, Mich.

MICHIGAN. Last season I picked 18 bushels from one ten-year-old Delicious tree. Having no cellar, we buried them in the ground; commenced using them the first of February. No man ever tasted a better apple.—(MRS.) SERENA LEWIS, Sanilac County.

MINNESOTA. Delicious has made a good growth.—C. M. JENSON, Freeborn County.

MINNESOTA. Delicious seems to be hardy here. I planted just a few trees that I got as premiums from your nursery, was afraid to purchase trees to plant, so bought scions and top-grafted. Up to date, I do not see but what the whole tree is just as good as the top-grafted ones, and apparently as hardy as what is generally designated as hardy northern kinds, as Wealthy and Patton's Greening. Last winter, 1908 and 1909, we had three weeks that the thermometer did not go above zero, with it down from 15 to 35 degrees below every night. I expected to have a lot of brush to burn in the shape of Delicious trees, but they came out with just the terminal buds killed in places.—HAROLD SIMMONS, Wright County, February 21, 1910.

LATER: July 19, 1910—We had 16 degrees of frost and a fifty-mile wind. I feared at the time that every tree in my orchard would be killed outright; we have oaks and box elders stoned dead from the effects of that day's cold, but the apple trees have recovered far beyond what I expected. Delicious has recovered as good as any of our so-called hardy northern kinds.

MISSOURI. I regard the Stark Delicious as far and away the best apple I ever tasted, and I consider myself something of a connoisseur. It is a part of my daily life to eat one or more apples, and I nearly always eat them raw. I am nervous dyspeptic, and find that a raw apple after meals helps my digestion very much indeed. Therefore, I am especially keen and quick in my judgment as to the quality, flavor, tenderness, and taste of apples. I would rather have Stark Delicious than any other apple I have ever eaten, and I believe this would be the verdict of almost every lover of apples, who is fortunate enough to have an opportunity of testing the question by enjoying one of your Stark Delicious.—E. C. SIMMONS, Pres. Simmons Hardware Co. (Keen Kutter Tools), St. Louis, Mo.

MISSOURI. I want to tell you that the box of Stark Delicious apples you sent me are the finest I have ever eaten and, in my opinion, are unequalled by any other variety. The fruit is absolutely perfect and the flavor delightful.—B. F. EDWARDS, Pres. National Bank of Commerce, St. Louis, Mo.

MISSOURI. Delicious is truly a king, the healthiest of apple trees, the one that after the first two years can't sunscald nor be hurt by hail. It is the king of North and West, good in bearing and fine in quality.—W. H. SCOTT, Laclede County.

MISSOURI. I find the Delicious tree a strong, healthy and vigorous growing tree, especially strong and healthy, as my trees were set out and practically left to care for themselves in sod and underbrush. We did not fully understand their value up to the last few years when they began to

bear—this year an especially good crop when frost practically ruined all other varieties. Delicious are certainly frost-proof. I am especially glad I have started another orchard of these trees.—C. M. FETTE, Vice-Pres. Mississippi Valley Apple Growers' Association, Hannibal, Mo.

MISSOURI. Your Delicious apples seem to be growing in favor around Koshkonong. An orchard here, which I have spoken to you about before, has a good crop this year; they have not been sprayed, but are well loaded with fruit of good size. I saw these trees last week and am convinced that had they been sprayed they would have produced some Delicious apples as fine as any I have seen on exhibition.—R. M. HITT, Oregon County.

MONTANA. Our experience with a young orchard is that Delicious excels all in hardiness. Where cottonwood trees will grow, Delicious will grow. The apple is without a peer. Black Ben, McIntosh, N. W. Greening, even Wolf River froze—Delicious not a bud froze back.—C. H. NORTON, Carbon County.

MONTANA. I consider Delicious the best all-round commercial apple in my orchard of over forty varieties; the tree very hardy and a strong and vigorous grower; apple good size, color and flavor unsurpassed, and a better keeper than Ben Davis. Begins to bear at three years from planting. Two years ago at the Farmers' Institute Meeting here at Rollins, on the 26th day of June, I exhibited Delicious, kept in an ordinary cellar, as sound as when they were picked from the tree.—R. A. ROLLINS, Flathead County.

MONTANA. Delicious is a good grower, very symmetrical, and capable of carrying a heavy load without injury to the tree. Only wish I had more Delicious in my orchard.—F. B. ELMER, Jefferson County.

MONTANA. The Delicious is the best of all in quality and a good keeper.—G. W. RHODES, Missoula County.

MONTANA. Delicious and Black Ben stood the past winter; buds of several other varieties killed back. Delicious better than McIntosh.—W. J. SAWYER, Yellowstone County.

NEW JERSEY. Have Delicious apples in my cellar now (February 11) as nice as when they were picked. It is a splendid keeper. They are just like the sample you sent me, except a little smaller and a brighter red.—P. L. BELSON, Atlantic County.

NEW MEXICO. I learned that one man at Roswell (New Mexico) received \$18,000 for the fruit of twenty acres of Stark Delicious.—R. C. BRISTOL, Hillsdale County, Michigan.

NEW MEXICO. I have twenty-five acres of bearing orchards, all Stark trees. About three hundred of these are Delicious. These trees up to the last year when I purchased the ranch were utterly neglected. Last year I got twenty-six boxes of Delicious and this year sold three hundred boxes at \$2.15 per box f. o. b. Roswell, the highest wholesale price ever received for as large a quantity of apples in this country. They were shipped all over the United States to customers of the Gross, Miller Grocer Co. Prof. Powell told me that these apples were the most beautiful he had ever seen, in all his wide experience.—P. D. SOUTHWORTH, Lincoln County.

NEW MEXICO. We handled all of P. D. Southworth's Stark Delicious which was about three hundred boxes. We marketed them here in Roswell and sold at \$3.00 per box. Some of these apples we shipped to Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and New York, and the recipients would answer—"a very appropriate name," "the most delicious apple we ever ate," etc. We have good success with them and only regret that we could not get more as we had calls for them and all we can say is, "all gone."—GROSS, MILLER GROCER CO., Roswell, New Mexico.

NEW MEXICO. I have seen a good many boxes of the Southworth crop of Delicious. They are very fine—equal to the best specimens sent me by Frank Fennons of the mountain apple region of California. They are uniformly large, of fine form, with less of the characteristic and identifying protuberances about the calyx than those that came from the far Northwest. Where they had much exposure to the sunshine, they have high color. They are a finer lot of Delicious than have ever come here from elsewhere. They are a credit to the country that produced them, and to the man who handled the machinery. Nearly three hundred boxes of them have been retailed here by one dealer at prices from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per box in this town, which is so full of apples—and good ones too—which are selling at around \$1.00 per box. It is a revelation to our apple growing people.—PARKER EARLE, Chaves County.

NEW YORK. What a "delicious" way you have of sending out your superb catalogue, imbedded among the fruits of rare perfection. I have just one criticism—that you did not make all the fruits Delicious. That apple is certainly a wonder, and if my feelings toward it are any criterion, I think it is going to sweep all other varieties before it.—L. B. JUDSON, Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

NEW YORK. Delicious fruited for the first time on our grounds this past season. We are very much pleased with it, especially as to quality.—U. P. HEDRICK, Horticulturist, New York Agricultural Experimental Station, in a letter to J. L. Ince, Portland, N. Y.

NEW YORK. Up to the present time the King David apples we have received have been sold. We cannot give you the refusal of the entire lot as there is a large demand for those two varieties on this market, especially the Delicious; what few we have this season we have already promised most of them to our high-class trade which we have held for the last ten or fifteen years.—E. L. LOOMIS, Commission Merchants, New York.

NEW YORK. Delicious needs no commendation from any one—in quality it is unsurpassed.—S. D. WILLARD, Ontario County.

NEW YORK. I do not want any better apple than Delicious, it is the best eating apple I have ever tasted. Have not had any to sell this year, but have given some away for trial.—TRUMAN TEMPLE, Washington County.

NEW ZEALAND. Delicious is coming more into demand here than ever—it is absolutely free from woolly aphids.—D. HAY & SON, Auckland.

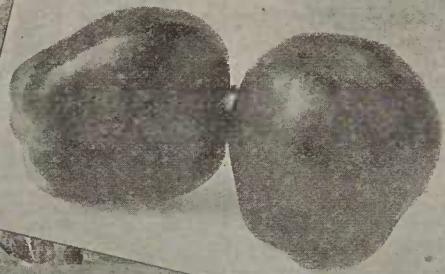
NORTH CAROLINA. Samples of Delicious, Black Ben, Stayman, and King David arrived in good shape; they certainly were fine, but the joke is on you as I have finer Delicious, Stayman and Black Ben in my cellar, grown on my own Stark trees here in North Carolina than the samples you sent. I bought my trees of you nine years ago. My Stayman, Rome Beauty, and Ingram bring me \$2.00 per box; Delicious brings me \$3.00, and I can't begin to supply the demand.—J. C. BUSHEWELL, Polk County.

OHIO. I have the samples of Delicious apples—they are certainly fine specimens of the variety. We have quite a collection of apple varieties on

Utah



Oregon



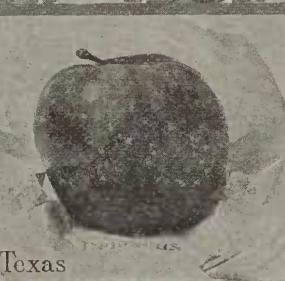
Kansas



Minnesota



Texas



Kentucky



N. Carolina



Ohio



Representative specimens of Stark Delicious as they grow in the states noted

This picture appears on page 40 of The Stark Year Book for 1911

hand, and among the rest were some Delicious grown at the Experiment Station at Wooster. These were not so large as the ones you sent and are quite differently formed; however, the variety grown here makes a very good showing.—PROF. WENDELL PADDOCK, Department of Horticulture, Ohio State University.

OHIO. Delicious is in full bearing this year—all it will hold without breaking down. The fruit is finely distributed throughout the tree so as to bear full without thinning. They hang on well during drought. The tree looks fresher than any other during this summer's dry spell.—JOHN COTTE, Washington County.

OHIO. The name "Delicious" that tells the story. Some of my trees bore one-half bushel this year.—W. F. STRAYER, Lucas County.

OKLAHOMA. Delicious from Lincoln County took the first premium at the state fair at Oklahoma City this week.—S. L. HOSTETTER, Canadian County.

OKLAHOMA. Having purchased one hundred Delicious apple grafts in the spring of 1908, I will make a short report of their growth. The first year they grew from little grafts to a height of 6 or 7 feet. Last spring I transplanted them; although the season was very dry I lost none of them. This past year they made a fine growth and also branched out very nicely. I consider them the finest tree I have ever grown.—HENRY REIMER, Garfield County.

OKLAHOMA. Delicious trees bought of you four years ago bore this year.—MAT BROWN, Grower of fine fruits, Major County.

OREGON. Delicious are O. K. Would plant heavily.—H. F. J. SIEVERKESOPH, Wasco County.

PENNSYLVANIA. I have Delicious in bearing; they are the best apples I ever ate. Tree is a fine grower and a good bearer. My family won't eat anything but Delicious as long as they can get them. No one can go amiss on planting Delicious.—WILLIAM H. HELLOTT, Fulton County.

PENNSYLVANIA. I am sending you a sample of Delicious so you can see and taste the Delicious as grown in Pennsylvania. It is larger and finer color than the Delicious I bought last winter at the fruit stands and my family is satisfied that it surpasses them in flavor. It is the best dessert apple I have in my orchard.—ROBERT M. ADAMS, Lancaster County.

PENNSYLVANIA. I have ten Delicious trees, eight years planted, that bore nicely last season. The quality was fine, much better than the Pacific Coast Delicious. I kept them in an ordinary cellar without any care until May 1st.—H. H. LAUB, JR., Mifflin County.

PENNSYLVANIA. Delicious is an apple than can't be beat. It does well here. They are fine, thrifty trees and good bearers.—JACOB E. GNAGEY, Somersett County.

RHODE ISLAND. Delicious is a heavy bearer—best apple I ever ate. Those that have sampled it say the same. Delicious is the apple for Rhode Island. Delicious I fruited this season were better quality and finer colored than the samples you sent me. Splendid keepers—superior to all apples grown here in quality.—ROBERT B. ALMY, Newport County.

SOUTH DAKOTA. I have six hundred Delicious trees set last year. They are the healthiest and best looking young trees I ever saw; went through the winter in fine shape. I measured the new growth made by one of them this season and it was exactly 43 inches.—H. L. LEPPA, Lawrence County.

SOUTH DAKOTA. Have fruited Delicious four years on our South Dakota farm. STOOD 40 DEGREES BELOW ZERO AND FRUITED WHEN JONATHAN FAILED.—D. M. DICKERSON, Woodbury County, Iowa.

TENNESSEE. Tree is healthy, vigorous, and productive, while the fruit is sprightly and most excellent—one of the best.—H. L. FAIRCHILD, Fairfield County.

TENNESSEE. I have examined Delicious both in Virginia and at the Tennessee State Fair and find that it has succeeded admirably thus far in these states.—G. B. BRACKETT, U. S. Pomologist.

TENNESSEE. Delicious stood the frost best of all the past season. Large red, conical, good bearer, thrifty grower and hardy.—LANDON AYRES, Greene County.

TEXAS. I have sold sixty Delicious trees four- and five-year. They are thrifty and do fine in Texas. My orchard of Stark trees is said to be the finest in Denton County, by all who have seen it. I have about six hundred Stark apple trees—fourteen acres in all.—J. A. FISHER, Denton County.

UTAH. There are no old trees in this section, but a tree planted two years ago last spring bore three fine specimens this year. As a tree there is none better in the valley.—EDGAR ADAMS, Emery County.

UTAH. Stark Delicious is entitled to special praise, as it meets all the requirements of a winter apple as to size, shape, color, beauty and keeping qualities. Tree is very hardy and when planted here extensively will become as popular as Jonathan and that is saying a good deal as everyone calls for Jonathan here.—BRIGHAM BIRCH, Salt Lake County.

VIRGINIA. M. B. Miller & Bro's, Bridgewater, Va., placed some very fine Delicious apples on exhibition at the recent county apple-show held at Harrisonburg, Va. You happened to have on display, apples of this variety grown in Washington. The Virginia-grown Delicious outclassed them in color and quality, but did not quite equal them in waxy finish. All things considered I believe the Virginia Delicious was superior to your Washington samples.—H. L. PRICE, Montgomery County.

VIRGINIA. I have examined Delicious both in Virginia and at the Tennessee State Fair and find that it has succeeded admirably thus far in these states.—G. B. BRACKETT, U. S. Pomologist.

VIRGINIA. I was at the Virginia State Fair this week and on going through the Horticultural building was surprised to see what a splendid showing Stark Delicious apple made.—FURMAN AGEE, Albemarle County.

VIRGINIA. This is the first year that Virginia orchardists will pack Stark Bro's Delicious, and we want you to know it is making friends among all fruit-growers and is sure to grow in favor as the young trees planted come into bearing.—MAGIE BRO'S, Augusta County.

VIRGINIA. Our Delicious trees have the finest, handsomest, best apples, I think, we ever saw or tasted. One tree has 110 apples for its first crop. Wish all our trees were Delicious.—J. A. CONKLIN, Alexandria County.

VIRGINIA. Have some Delicious trees bearing. The name fittingly describes the unsurpassed flavor of the fruit and I believe the trees will prove regular and heavy bearers in this section.—W. W. BIRD, Russell County.

(NOTE.—Stark Delicious is fruiting in every fruit section of Washington. It has in every locality of this state proven itself an unequalled success in tree and fruit, and as a money-maker outranks any apple ever grown in this famous orchard region. Our file of letters from Washington growers on Delicious is almost unlimited, so much so that we could devote a whole section of this book to them, but since the variety is so well known, we are simply reproducing a few of the representative letters from the different sections of the state.—STARK BRO'S.)

WASHINGTON. I think highly of the Delicious and also of the King David apple. In fact, I am going to plant these varieties and am sure any orchardist who plants them will not make a mistake.—W. T. CLARK, Pres. Washington State Horticultural Society.

WASHINGTON. I cannot say too much for the Delicious. They are here to stay, any one having ground enough to stand one tree should fill that space with a good healthy Delicious.—F. DANPO, Chelan County.

WASHINGTON. Delicious appears to be the favorite apple in this vicinity. In the yearly sale of apples seventy-five cars were sold at auction by the Wenatchee Valley Fruit Growers' Association and the following prices were obtained: Winesap, \$2.25; Spitzenburg, \$2.50; and Delicious, \$3.00.—R. G. McDUGAL, Chelan County.

WASHINGTON. Delicious sold for \$3.00 per box f. o. b. shipping station.—WENATCHEE VALLEY FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION, Wenatchee, Wash.

WASHINGTON. I have thirty-six Delicious trees, nine years old. They began bearing the third year and have borne every year since, the largest crop being that of this year, 1910, averaging fifteen boxes to the tree. The gross returns will be not less than \$1,500. I have already sold 250 boxes for \$3.25 per box and the balance will bring from \$2.00 to \$2.50 per box. The tree is hardy and is less bothered by codling moths than any other in my orchard. If ever I plant another orchard, one-half of it will be to Delicious trees.—F. S. BURGESS, Chelan County.

WASHINGTON. In apple and tree Delicious is without a peer. Tree is a beautiful upright grower, in vigor even surpassing Black Ben. Fruit is well distributed over the tree, and they have the faculty, when overloaded, of thinning themselves. The tough fiber of the wood and the formation of the tree enable it to carry an immense load. Owing to the vigor of the tree, the texture and thickness of the leaves, it is comparatively free from the ravages of aphids and other plant life. The apple is attractive in appearance and takes on a beautiful color; in quality it belongs to the superlative degree. It has created a sensation in the Wenatchee Valley—having for three years sold on the general market at higher prices than any other sort. It is being extensively planted and deserves to be in every orchard. It is a great apple and has a great future as a standard commercial sort.—O. M. BROOKS, Chelan County.

WASHINGTON. Last spring I planted Stark King David and Delicious with Rome Beauty and Jonathan from other nurseries, and their performance is so much superior to the other varieties that I will plant nothing but Delicious and King David this year.—A. H. HEWITT, Spokane County.

WASHINGTON. Among our new apple trees we cannot praise your Delicious too highly. It does fine in our section.—JOHN J. RANAHAN, Stevens County.

WASHINGTON. I have the finest crop of Delicious that a Missourian ever saw. I have four hundred trees and they are loaded, limbs touch the ground, but never break. People come from far and near to see my orchard.—DICK HART, Yakima County.

WASHINGTON. The writer has examined the Stark Delicious quite carefully in one large orchard and finds the trees to be vigorous, strong growers. The Delicious apple from the standpoint of quality and flavor is hard to excel. Its flavor is peculiarly aromatic, pleasantly sub-acid, almost sweet and particularly enjoyed by many who do not enjoy the acid tart varieties, such as the Spitzenburg. With such the Delicious apple will stand at the head of the list.—H. M. GILBERT, Richey & Gilbert Co., Yakima County.

WASHINGTON. I will have some sixty boxes extra-fine, large Stark Delicious apples. They are prize-winners from trees purchased from you some years ago.—U. G. MERRILL, Yakima County.

WASHINGTON. I am sending by express samples of an apple I have no name for. Kindly compare with your Champion or Magnet—or make an attempt to name same.—F. H. HUNTER, Yakima Valley.

(NOTE.—Mr. Hunter's apple proved to be Delicious; the highest color, firmest, and most beautiful specimen we have yet had from the Yakima Valley.—STARK BRO'S.)

WASHINGTON. F. S. Burgess, a grower, at Cashmere, Washington, has sold the apples from a nine-year-old orchard of seven acres for \$14,000. From thirty-six Delicious trees he had 648 boxes, an average of eighteen boxes to a tree. Three hundred and fifty boxes were sold to the Stark Bro's Nursery at \$3.25 per box, and for three hundred other boxes he received \$3.00, making a total of \$2,037.50 or an average of \$56.60 per tree. From seventy Spitzenburg trees he picked 2,700 boxes, of which 2,200 are extra-fancy and fancy, selling them at \$2.25 per box. Other varieties are Stayman Winesap, old Winesap, and Black Ben Davis. The total yield was 8,000 boxes. The crop returns this season were \$2,000 per acre.—FRUIT TRADE JOURNAL AND PRODUCE RECORD, November 19, 1910.

WASHINGTON. Louis W. Hill, President of the Great Northern Railway Co., sent the following telegram from St. Paul yesterday to R. H. Rice, Secretary and Manager of the Third National Apple-Show: "While in Chicago last week I called at a fruit store near the La Salle Theater, which had a large display of Wenatchee Delicious apples. The large size sold at 25 cents each. The storekeeper showed me his sales-book that he was selling them at \$8.50 per box."—SPOKESMAN-REVIEW, Spokane, Wash., October 19, 1910.

WASHINGTON. C. W. Babcock, Cashmere, Wash., from one Delicious packed thirty-one boxes of apples, twenty-five extra-fancy and six fancy, which sold for \$99.25.—TWICE-A-WEEK SPOKESMAN-REVIEW, November 11, 1910.

WEST VIRGINIA. I am in receipt of specimens of Delicious grown by C. S. Scott, Sinks Grove, W. Va., which I am glad to have as it shows very plainly that Delicious is doing well in that section of the country.—Hon. G. B. BRACKETT, U. S. Pomologist

WEST VIRGINIA. Delicious bears as heavy as Ben Davis in West Virginia, as I found a farmer with six trees of Delicious heavily loaded, also Stayman Winesap.—RAYE KEPHARTE, Mineral County.

WEST VIRGINIA. Everyone here who has Delicious has a good word for it. Have never heard a single word against it. It is all right in both tree and fruit. Mr. S. W. Moore, of Elwell, says it is the best kind he has in his orchard. He is one of the best authorities in this state and one with the widest knowledge. I have fruited Delicious and it is all right.—S. C. SCOTT, Monroe County.

WEST VIRGINIA. If you would only substitute Delicious and Stayman Winesap for the numerous progeny of Ben Davis in dealing with your New England customers you would confer a lasting favor on lovers of good apples.—W. M. MUNSON, Monongalia County.

WISCONSIN. Delicious colors well here and the tree is as hardy as Black Ben or Senator.—WM. CEZAR, Jefferson County.

WYOMING. Your colored reproduction of Stark Delicious is very fine, but if you could have had the Delicious apple now on my desk at the time your cuts were made you would have a prettier picture, more richly colored. Mr. Jordan sent me a dozen Stark Delicious that have set this community on fire. It is not necessary for us to experiment with other varieties, because these apples grew seventeen miles from my office. They are superior to any apple I have ever seen, both in color and flavor, just the right size for marketing. The sample I prize most highly weighs 6 ounces. This valley six years from now will be known all over the United States as "The Valley where the Big Horn Apples Grow."—J. L. LEWIS, Big Horn County.

WYOMING. I have traveled all over the fruit sections of the United States and consider that the Big Horn Basin will be a great fruit country. I visited that section last month and was much surprised to find genuine Delicious apples of high color as firm as an apple could be, and of medium size, that were grown near Worland. The apples had been in a cellar all winter and there was no sign of decay. The man who grew these apples had six trees that were sent to him by mistake, but will be worth thousands of dollars to the people of the Big Horn Basin. The Delicious apple sells on the eastern market at \$4.00 to \$5.00 per box and is beyond doubt the best flavored apple in existence to-day.—C. M. HOLTZINGER, Fruit-Buyer.

## Black Ben \*

(Trade-Mark)

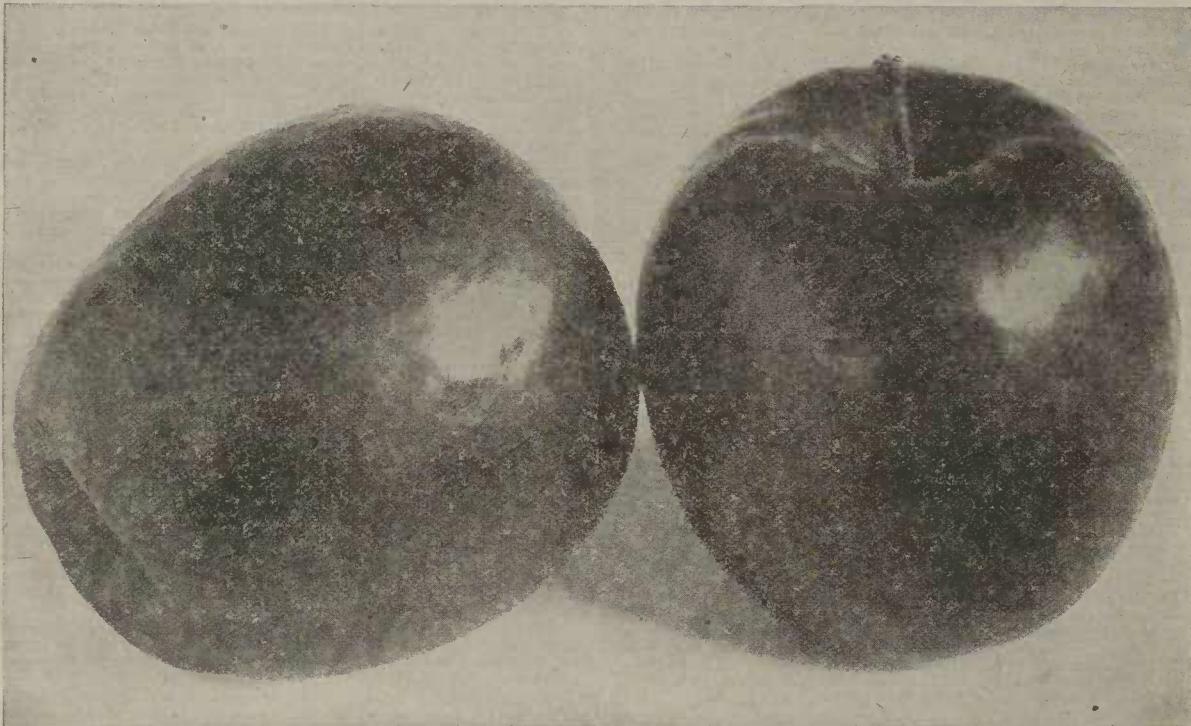
In every case where an apple of the Ben Davis family is wanted this variety should be planted. In every way it is superior to Ben Davis, Gano, Etris, Red Ben Davis or any kindred apple. The tree growth is of the Ben Davis character, but is even stronger, harder, thriftier, is a better resister of drouth, its foliage is more vigorous, and it succeeds over a larger territory. Its fruit is one of the very handsomest of all apples, is large, solid deep, dark red (no stripes), and while no claim is made for its being in the high quality class of Delicious, King David, Senator, and others, it is way ahead of Ben

Davis in this respect. Its wonderful beauty, however, makes it a profit-earner and a big one. It constantly is quoted at higher prices than Arkansas Black, Baldwin, etc., and often brings the same price at which Jonathan sells—a variety it is often sold as. In the spring of 1909 it sold on Chicago and New York markets at \$3.00 per box, while Jonathan brought but \$2.00. In the fall of 1909 Black Ben sold at the Wenatchee (Washington) Fruit Growers' Union sale, at \$2.00 per box. Jonathan in the same sale brought \$1.90, Ben Davis \$1.40, Missouri Pippin \$1.50, Gano \$1.50, York Imperial \$1.15, Rome Beauty \$1.75, etc. For fancy fruit-stand trade it is a prime favorite and a ready seller. The American people buy color in apples and Black Ben will command first attention anywhere. It is a splendid A-1 keeper, either in a common cellar or cold storage, does not scald, and bruises, instead of rotting, dry up. No apple will stand hard handling or long-distance shipping better than Black Ben. Why plant Ben Davis, Gano, Missouri Pippin, or other kindred apples when Black Ben succeeds equally as well or better from coast to coast and will out-sell them almost two to one? A better apple, in its class, than Black Ben never grew; we urge orchardists everywhere to plant it largely. The following letters will tell you what planters in all parts of the country think of it. NCS Illustratred in natural color on page 38.

NOTE.—There are nurserymen and dealers cataloguing and selling Gano and Red Ben Davis and representing them, ignorantly or intentionally, as being identical to Black Ben. Such is not the case. Black Ben is a distinct variety and the very best of the Ben Davis family, a variety of general adaptability and which is being planted commercially in all parts of the country by our best and thinking orchardists.

Have just refused an offer of \$2.25 per box from a New York dealer for a car load of Black Ben. LATER: Sold Black Ben in New York markets the other day for \$3.00 per box; Jonathan brought only \$2.00. Just had a call from Mr. M. O. Tibbets, President of the Wenatchee Apple Growers' Association. He said: "I have a block of Black Ben which commenced to bear at three years of age and has borne every year. This year, they are eight years old and averaged ten boxes to the tree—they bear heavier than Red Ben Davis."—C. W. WILMEROTH, former Treasurer, H. Woods Commission Co., Chicago.

(NOTE: On the Wenatchee, Washington, markets, season of 1909, Black Ben brought 25 cents per box more than Gano and 75 cents per box more than Ben Davis. Black Ben and Jonathan brought the same price, but later



Black Ben — the greatest money-maker and the variety that has driven old Ben Davis off the horticultural map

Do you know Black Ben? The Stark Year Book for 1911 tells the story